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The Highlander

Thursday **April 4 2024** | Issue 634

INSIDE: U18 STORM WIN OMHA CHAMPIONSHIP PAGE 23

FREE



New burning rules

A firefighter sprays water on a barn on Gelert Road March 30 after a burn got out of control. A new County-wide burn bylaw is now in effect. See the full story on page 5.

Photo by Lisa Gervais.

Eclipse once in a lifetime thing for most

By Lisa Gervais

Brian Mould runs the astronomy program at Haliburton Forest. While his eclipse chaser friends are headed to Mexico, he's off to the Belleville-Kingston area.

He said while there is the possibility of two solar eclipses a year, total solar eclipses are rarer, especially the 100-kilometre-wide

moon shadow racing across the planet for a short piece. "So, you want to pick your spots to be right in that moon shadow for that totality experience."

He said the key is being mobile in case it's cloudy in one area, but clear in another.

Mould added Highlanders are still going to get a great show, with 97 per cent partial,

"that's pretty dark." He reminded locals they cannot look at the sun without eclipse protection. He added there are lots of things to do, like pinhole projections, poking a hole in a piece of cardboard and projecting the spot of light onto the ground, a wall, or piece of paper as, "it will project the image of the sun with the crescent shape." Others use

pasta colanders for interesting imagery.

"It's a great opportunity to teach kids, or teach anybody about it." He added he understands why the school board decided to make it a day off for kids since it would be difficult to ensure children did not look at the sun without protection.

Continued 'Astronomer' on page 2

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Haliburton Forest astronomer Brian Mould is looking forward to seeing a total eclipse. *Submitted.*

Astronomer really excited

Continued from page 1

Mould said the fascination stems from the “primordial fear” reaction to the darkness, as well as the fact it’s, “the only chance you get to see the outer atmosphere of the sun.”

“If you’re in the path of totality for that little minute or two, you can take your glasses off, you can take the filters off the telescope, you can look at it with binoculars, and you will see the disk of that moon blocking the sun. The atmosphere of the sun is the corona and it stretches for millions of kilometres out into space and that’s the only time you get to see it is when the sun is blocked.”

Mould said he cannot afford to chase eclipses across the globe, like some of his friends, but this one is close and within driving distance. “This may, or may not, be my only actual total eclipse that I get to see.” He’ll bring solar glasses, binoculars, two telescopes, cardboard with pinholes and the words ‘Eclipse 2024’. “I’m just going to play with the light.”

“I’m getting really excited now because the weather is starting to look better. This will be my first one. Really looking forward to it. Really hoping for totality. I want to see that outer corona of the sun, then I’ll feel like an astronomer from centuries ago. For most people, this will be a once in a lifetime thing.”

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Photo geek ready for eclipse

By Lisa Gervais

Haliburton County photographer Carol Moffatt admits she's "geeking out a bit" as she prepares to travel to Southern Ontario April 7 to photograph the next day's total solar eclipse.

With the Highlands only having a partial eclipse, Moffatt put feelers out on Facebook to see if anyone had ideas on where she could go for her astrophotography.

She's had a few offers but settled on a 10-acre rural property, "owned by a friend of a friend" west of Niagara Falls, where she'll get "just under four minutes of totality."

"I am not an astronomy geek. It's just a photographic challenge," she said on March 30.

Moffatt said the Neowise comet in 2020 piqued her interest, as did the lunar eclipse in 2022 – both of which she successfully captured.

She recalled how her nephew was outdoors with a couple of buddies and she strolled by with her equipment, jokingly telling them "I'll see if I can photograph that old comet, eh... and, well, didn't I get some really super cool images, and it was like, well, it isn't that hard."

But it isn't easy. "When you set out to do something, you read and study and make a million mistakes and that's why I'm out here now with my sun finder, which I just got in the mail yesterday," she said at her home by the lake.

There is specific camera equipment employed by astrophotographers. For a total solar eclipse, there is even more specialized gear. Moffatt's been gathering what she needs for weeks and researching what is required to capture iconic images, such as the Diamond Ring and Bailey's beads.

The Diamond Ring Effect occurs at the beginning and end of totality. As the last bits of sunlight pass through the valleys on the moon's limb, and the faint corona around the sun is just becoming visible, it looks like a ring with glittering diamonds on it.

With Bailey's beads, as the moon covers the sun, the rugged topography of the lunar limb allows beads of sunlight to shine through in some places. They are named for Francis Bailey, who explained the effect in 1836.

Moffatt and husband, Tony Aymong, will take their RV Sunday to a location just 10 minutes, or 12 kilometres, from where she'll



attempt to snap the eclipse on Monday. They are staying somewhere where they can drive on back roads, and access the private property via a gate. Then, Moffatt will begin getting ready at about 1 p.m. for the astral phenomenon.

She'll have a camera, tripod, sun finder and solar filter – and will do her best to have the correct settings, and prepare to remove the sun filter for the precious moment of totality.

In under four minutes, she concedes you have to get it right.

"I'm a hack at this. I've never shot a total eclipse before. I have this idea I'll come out with a suite of magnificence and maybe it will be a fuzzy blob in the sky, I don't know. That's the chance you take. I want the diamond ring but the iconic shot should be pulling back and getting coronal flares – that look like wispy tendrils coming off of the sun."

But it's like the old Bits and Bites commercial, where every handful is a new ball game. She jokes, "every photographic event is a whole new ball game."



Top: Carol Moffatt prepares her gear to photograph the eclipse. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.* Above: Carol Moffatt captured the lunar eclipse in 2022. *Submitted.*

Protect your eyes

The HKPR district health unit says in the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge DHU area, Northumberland County will experience a total solar eclipse between 2 and 4:30 p.m., with the peak at approximately 3:20 p.m. The City of Kawartha Lakes and County of Haliburton will experience a partial eclipse.

"It is dangerous to look directly at the sun any time - especially during a solar eclipse. Even looking at a small sliver of the sun during a solar eclipse can be harmful to vision and could cause: retinal burns, blurred vision, temporary vision loss and permanent eyesight loss," the health unit says.

The public health agency added, "since the retinas of the eyes do not have pain sensors, eye damage from looking at the sun may take several hours to notice. These symptoms include mild to severe pain, eye redness, blurred vision, watery eyes, increased sensitivity to light, difficulties reading, dark spots in vision and headache. Seek medical attention immediately if you notice symptoms within 24-48 hours following the solar eclipse."

The Dunlap Institute for Astronomy & Astrophysics, at the University of Toronto, recommends solar filters or glasses with ISO 12312-2 Standard. During a partial eclipse, such as in Haliburton County, do not remove your eclipse glasses or viewers at any time. Another option is an eclipse box or viewing a livestream.

Travel tips

Highlands East put out a warning March 18 about large numbers of people travelling to prime viewing areas. It advises checking ahead for service changes and local closures and arrive 24-48 hours ahead of time. For example, Niagara Falls has declared a state of emergency.

While driving, avoid looking at the eclipse. Keep your eyes on the road to safely operate your vehicle. On highways, don't stop and take photos or get out of your car, and stay updated on road conditions at 511on.ca

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Landfill usage up in Algonquin Highlands

By Mike Baker

Landfill activity in Algonquin Highlands was up in 2023, with vehicle counts, waste collection, and recyclable drop offs all seeing an increase.

Melissa Murray, the township's environmental manager, provided her annual landfill reports to council March 21, which included data from the Maple Lake, Pine Springs, and Oxtongue Lake locations. The highlight, she said, is that all sites have been operating in compliance with the township's environmental targets for 2023, as established by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP).

"I think it's good news... there's nothing significant that's triggered any [negative] events as far as sampling goes and water quality. Any impacts to the environment are as expected and within allowable limits," Murray said.

The reports were compiled by Peterborough-based consulting and engineering firm Cambium Inc, using tracking data from 2023.

The Maple Lake site added a total of 745 tonnes of waste to the landfill this year – 670 tonnes from local residential waste, and 75 tonnes diverted from the Dorset Transfer Station. Murray stated the landfill has a remaining capacity of 133,660 cubic metres, with an expected lifespan of 47 years.

Last year's vehicle count was 30,285, up from 29,699 in 2022 and 26,904 in 2021. Murray noted recycling efforts at Maple Lake have been successful, with 227.57 tonnes of blue box materials, 8.85 tonnes of electronic waste, 119.91 tonnes of scrap metal, 1.45 tonnes of household batteries, 686 tires, and 91 household appliances (fridges, ovens, washing machines) diverted from the landfill.

The Pine Springs landfill also saw an increase in activity. The site collected 353 tonnes of waste in 2023 – 76 tonnes of local residential waste and 283 tonnes of material diverted from the Dorset Transfer Station. Murray noted the landfill has an anticipated remaining lifespan of 100 years.

Vehicle counts were up marginally, to 3,008 last year from 2,898 in 2022. Murray noted 5,229 garbage bags were collected in 2023, up from 4,476 the previous year. A further 13.95 tonnes of blue box recycling was

collected at the site.

The Oxtongue Lake landfill reported the lowest numbers – with 79 tonnes of residential waste disposed of in 2023. Murray said 5,616 bags of household garbage were dropped off last year, down from 5,716 bags in 2022. She added the site has a remaining lifespan of 70 years.

Vehicle counts remained stable from the prior year, with 4,397 in 2023. This was just three more than 2022 – at 4,394.

The township also collected 28.84 tonnes of blue box recyclables, 2.92 tonnes of waste electronics, eight tonnes of scrap metal, 301 tires, and 91 appliances at the site.

Murray noted all closure-related activities at the former Hawk Lake landfill were completed last spring. The site was closed in October 2021, with capping of the landfill finished by November 2022. The MECP confirmed the closure was deemed complete by March 31, 2023.

There was no report on the Dorset Transfer Station, with those statistics compiled biannually, Murray noted. She noted there was limited activity at the McClintock Lagoon, with no septage disposed in 2023.

Hazardous waste events in Algonquin Highlands

Algonquin Highlands will host three household hazardous waste events this year – one each at the Oxtongue Lake landfill, Dorset Transfer Station, and Maple Lake landfill.

During budget deliberations, council opted to host three events this year, rather than the four initially planned, saving around \$6,000. A June 8 event at Maple Lake has been scrapped.

Oxtongue Lake will accept items such as batteries, motor oil, pool chemicals, fertilizers, antifreeze, bleach, fluorescent lamps, paint, fire extinguishers and cleaning products Aug. 24, from 1 to 5 p.m. Other events are scheduled at the Dorset Transfer Station Sept. 14, from 1 to 5 p.m., and at Maple Lake Oct. 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

There will also be three events in each of Highlands East, Minden Hills, and Dysart.



A landfill attendant at Maple Lake waste disposal site greeting a resident who is showing their landfill user ID card. *File.*

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MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE

• Connection and Response, an exhibit by artist Bruce Cull will be on display from April 4 – June 8 in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. The Opening Reception with the artist takes place on Saturday, April 6, 2024 from 1-3 pm at the Gallery. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome. For more info: <https://calendar.mindenhills.ca/default/Detail/2024-04-04-1000-Connection-and-Response-An-Exhibit-by-Bruce-Cull>

• The Knitting Village provides free knitting lessons for children ages 11-14. Upcoming classes will be held on April 9 and 16 from 3:30-4:30 pm at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre, 176 Bobcaygeon Road. All materials are supplied.

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Join the Township in celebrating Earth Day on April 22 and all month long. This year, the Earth Day theme is leg day. The best thing you can do for the planet and yourself is skip the car, not leg day. Join the challenge at earthday.ca/legday for your chance to win some prizes.

In support of Earth Day, the Township would like to give one lucky Minden Hills resident a new FoodCycler unit! Send us a picture of an eco-friendly initiative within Minden Hills such as a roadside clean up, and your name will be entered into a draw to win a FoodCycler unit. Include the location details of your eco-friendly initiative. Photos can be emailed to ccosh@mindenhills.ca. Deadline to submit your photos is April 30, 2024.

SPRING LOAD RESTRICTIONS (HALF LOADS) IN EFFECT

Half Load weight restrictions are placed on roadways and posted each year in the spring for approximately 1-2 months. Persons contravening this regulation will be prosecuted under Section 122 of The Highway Traffic Act. Please watch for and obey posted signage. Visit www.mindenhills.ca for updates.

COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person (Council Chambers) and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

- April 11 – Regular Council Meeting
- April 25 – Regular Council Meeting
- May 9 – Regular Council Meeting
- May 30 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link on the Township CivicWeb Portal at <https://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx>. Visit our website for more information.

FIRE SEASON

Fire Season starts April 1 and ends October 31 in any given year. There is no daytime burning permitted. Fire restrictions are from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Daytime Burning).





Firefighters douse dry ground at Saturday's Gelert Road fire. The blaze scorched 11 acres. Fire chiefs said it was a perfect example of why new rules are needed. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

Townships to crack down on daytime burning

By Mike Baker and Lisa Gervais

Firefighters from Minden Hills, Dysart et al and Algonquin Highlands teamed up March 30 to combat a brush fire in Gelert that "quickly" spun out of control.

Coming on the eve of a new County-wide daytime burning bylaw, which came into effect April 1, the blaze, which started as an open burn before spreading into some brush and nearby prairie grass, scorched 11 acres and took out a large barn, said Rob Thibert, Minden Hills' acting fire chief.

The fire took several hours to bring under control, with 30 firefighters and 12 pieces of apparatus responding from the three local volunteer units.

"Due to the efforts of well-trained and equipped firefighters, the fire was extinguished before it could spread into a large, forested area," Thibert said. "Due to inconsistent and unseasonably warm temperatures over the past couple of days, these conditions allowed the fire to spread quickly."

The fire chief said this was a timely reminder to residents of why the open air burning bylaw is necessary. Jointly created by the County's four chiefs, and adopted by councils in Algonquin Highlands, Dysart et al, Highlands East, and Minden Hills, the bylaw establishes consistent burning regulations across the Highlands, while introducing some new provisions.

The major change is the elimination of daytime burning during the fire season, which runs from April 1 to Oct. 31. Previously, daytime burn permits were available to set open air fires during this period.

"The 2023 wildfire season was the most destructive ever recorded in Canada, and the decision to eliminate daytime burning... was made with heightened public safety in mind," Thibert said.

Dan Chumbley, fire chief in Dysart, said 16 firefighters from his department assisted with Saturday's fire, which occurred on a property off Gelert Road near Ingoldsby Road shortly after 1 p.m. Referencing the new open air

burning bylaw, Chumbley said it's necessary due to the early thaw.

"The spring has started out drier than usual so we are also starting [our response] earlier with this review," Chumbley said.

Highlands East fire chief, Chris Baughman, said there were several brush/grass fires reported in the County over the weekend. He said the new bylaw is necessary to prevent fires like the one in Gelert Saturday.

"At this time, there is not a total ban, just no day burning between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. This could change if things continue to dry out quickly with little rain and most of the snow already melted," Baughman said.

There are some exceptions - contractors or applicants with open building, demolition, or driveway permits who require daytime burning can apply for an exemption through their local fire department.

Open air fires for cooking and warmth are also permitted, though they must be small, confined, and supervised at all times. These fires must be smaller than 0.6 metres in diameter; confined within a fire pit or

appliance; completely extinguished when use is complete; and must comply with all other conditions of the bylaw.

Fires for cooking or warmth are not permitted during a fire ban, the chiefs confirmed in a media release.

For evening fires, Baughman said the maximum size allowed is two metres in diameter, with any controlled blaze required to be at least three metres from any combustibles, fence, or structure, such as a house or deck.

For more information, contact your local fire chief:

- Mike French, fire chief, Algonquin Highlands, 705-706-0010, mfrench@algonquinhighlands.ca
- Rob Thibert, acting fire chief, Minden Hills, 705-286-1202, ext. 561, rthibert@mindenhills.ca
- Dan Chumbley, fire chief, Dysart et al, 705-457-2126, dchumbley@dysartetal.ca
- Chris Baughman, fire chief, Highlands East, 705-448-2981, cbaughman@highlandseast.ca.



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DYSART ET AL NEWS

'Spruce up'

The township is partnering with the Friends of the Rail Trail (FoRT) on a project that could see the old CNR railway caboose located in Head Lake Park spruced up for the summer.

Pamela Marsales, representing FoRT, told Dysart council March 26 there was an opportunity to apply for a provincial grant through the Ontario Trillium Foundation to establish a bike hub at the caboose. It would run a one-year pilot at the site.

"Our caboose sits sad and forlorn in the village... this low-risk trial could give it a new purpose. The project would raise heritage awareness – we already have proponents in the community keen to kickstart a 'paint the caboose' campaign to bring it back to its former glory," Marsales said.

She said the location is ideal as various community programs could be offered, encouraging people to bike around the village. Groups such as the Haliburton Real Easy Ryders Cycling Club, Haliburton Rotary, Rails End Gallery, and local business

Algonquin Outfitters are supporting the project, Marsales said.

Council agreed for the township to take point on the application.

Support for tower

A new 91-metre cell tower serving residents around Drag Lake has been supported by council.

The latest in the Eastern Ontario Regional Network's cell gap project, the structure is to be installed near Blueberry Trail and Dudley Road – just east of Drag Lake. It will be located on high ground "for functionality", noted consultant Victoria McKay, who noted it will be "nestled within dense foliage to mitigate visual impact" to nearby residents.

The tower will feature the minimum lighting requirements, as outlined by Transport Canada, with a shield installed to prevent light pollution for nearby properties. The project was supported by council, and will now go to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada for final approval. (Dysart et al news compiled by Mike Baker).



Friends of the Rail Trail want to repaint the CNR railway caboose. *Dysart et al Facebook.*

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Leahy's Lane phase one in Peterborough. *Habitat for Humanity.*

Habitat keen to come to Highlands

By Lisa Gervais

Habitat for Humanity Peterborough & Kawartha Region told County council March 27 it is still working with the County of Haliburton to try to bring 60 affordable homes to the Wee Care property in Haliburton.

Chief executive officer, Susan Zambonin, said they would also be interested in acquiring land for a ReStore in the Highlands, if a vacant, and affordable piece of property, could be found.

She noted there are three Haliburton County residents on their board of directors, including Fay Martin, who is vice chair, Minden Hills mayor and County coun. Bob Carter, and Colleen Dermody, who are directors.

Zambonin said last week, "they, as well as the rest of our board and staff, want to be building in Haliburton County, and we have not to date. We've built in all the other areas of our service area.

"We really need to build in the County of Haliburton, and we're excited about the opportunity with the Wee Care property, and we've also made an early presentation to Algonquin Highlands council."

As reported in the Dec. 14, 2023 *Highlander*, the County is in talks with Haliburton Wee Care, Habitat for Humanity, and the City of Kawartha Lakes human services department about redeveloping the nursery property on CR 21 for housing, expanded day care and other uses.

The County transferred \$100,000 from its affordable housing targets reserve for technical studies needed to redesign the site.

Former director of planning, Steve Stone, said the primary goals were housing and childcare, with Dysart et al saying the site

could accommodate 38 residential units, and Habitat for Humanity putting that number at 63.

The County has experienced a 300 per cent increase in the number of households waiting for community housing in the last 10 years; rental rates have risen by 72 per cent for one-bedroom apartments, and 23 per cent for two-bedroom apartments since 2018; only 50 units of affordable housing are in development towards the target of 750; and the business case for development of housing "simply does not work anymore due to increasing costs of construction, increasing interest rates and limited funding from other levels of government," the County's former planner said.

Zambonin told councillors last week, Habitat for Humanity has a model that has worked elsewhere. It is called a financial partner model and involves no down payment, a credit union low-interest first mortgage for the homebuyer and Habitat for Humanity holding a second mortgage - with no payment until sale or refinancing, and an equity stake payable on sale and refinancing. It means they can build for \$172 per square foot. They also get money from the CMHC and cash donations.

Their most recent project is Leahy's Place phase one in Peterborough. Zambonin said they were able to build for \$10.6 million, which was 30 per cent less than market budget.

Zambonin said there are lots of misconceptions about what they do.

"People think we give houses away for free." However, "we aren't social housing. We're not rental housing. We're not market home ownership. We're affordable home ownership only."

The executive director noted that in the

past, they had only built for families, but want to supply more housing to singles, seniors and single parents.

As for the ReStore, which covers Habitat for Humanity's operational costs, Zambonin said if anybody knew about affordable, vacant land, in the County, they should get in touch.

Habitat also recently spoke to AH council about potential land they have for housing.

"So, there's lots that we're looking to do and would love to be in this County," Zambonin said.

Warden Liz Danielsen commented, "it's just fabulous to see such a wonderful and innovative approach to providing home ownership to low-income families. I know it's changing but the cost per square foot that you're able to construct at is really rather extraordinary. I've heard as much as \$700 a square foot for construction in these days. And I do have to say on behalf of Algonquin Highlands, we are really looking forward to continued discussion and exploring opportunities there."

As reported in the Feb. 29 *Highlander*, Zambonin met with AH and Danielsen said the township had identified four lots that could be suitable for development, the largest along Hwy. 118.

Coun. Murray Fearrey complimented their free kitchen and home deconstruction service out of the ReStore. "I think that's a pretty exciting program, and I have to admire the initiatives that you've taken... pretty creative... but you are targeting the right area of people. These are the people that need it. They're working. They're contributing to the community. It's a win-win, so we look forward to working with you."

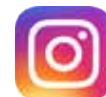
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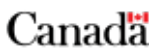
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No accountability

I can only imagine the fun and games at Algonquin Highlands recently when the aviation community flooded them with concerns about a new Rogers tower near Stanhope Airport.

The aviators, some of whom also spoke with *The Highlander*, were concerned about the proximity of the tower to the runway and also the tower going up initially without lighting.

Consequently, AH, which has no authority over Rogers' towers, had to figure out what was going on. Mayor Liz Danielsen consulted with the Eastern Ontario Regional Network – which is overseeing the cell gap project. Meanwhile, director of public works, Adam Thorn, was busy with Rogers, Hydro One, Transport Canada and other federal agencies trying to put out the fire.

We've been going down the same rabbit hole since the beginning of last week. Asking questions. Getting lots of emails from corporate and government media types assuring us they are looking into the concerns, and will get back to us, but then it's information we already know, non-answers or no answers. Rogers, for example, missed our initial deadline before telling

us everything we already knew – and not addressing the white elephant in the room.

We knew the new tower was part of the EORN cell gap project, which EORN and Rogers espouse will provide and improve coverage to 99 per cent of Eastern Ontario through the construction of 300 new sites.

Rogers assured us they work closely with the local community to ensure their services, equipment and design meet local needs.

They said they followed all required procedures with Nav Canada and Transport Canada throughout site selection, consultation and build. They said Nav Canada was notified of, and approved, the site location and tower prior to the build.

The lights on all their towers are turned on, they told us, as soon as hydro is made available at the site.

But, hang on. The aviators told us that initially there were no lights. Algonquin Highlands mayor Liz Danielsen told *The Highlander* there was a time when the tower was up and there were no lights. She told County council the same thing at their March 27 meeting. She said that staff had to get in touch with Rogers to urge them to get a generator at the site ASAP to light the

tower while awaiting hydro.

Our Rogers spokesman did not address this. We replied to his email with a follow-up. Um... what exactly had been their plan when a new tower was erected near an airport without hydro to light it. Had they planned to have a generator in place so when the tower became operational, it had lights? We are still waiting for their answer. Still waiting for replies on our generator question from all the federal authorities, too.

In the meantime, it's our understanding it was AH staff that contacted Rogers to ensure a generator was moved on-site until hydro could be connected. We've also been told it was AH staff that made sure that pilots were alerted to the situation.

None of this was the job of Algonquin Highlands. Rogers and the federal government transportation authorities have let them, and the public, down. They need to do so much better.



By Lisa Gervais

Burn ban a win

A lot of people aren't happy about this new open air burning ban that came into effect County-wide April 1. And for the life of me, I can't figure out why.

The new rules were endorsed by all four fire chiefs whose primary job it is to identify potential problems, or areas of concern, and find solutions. All to keep County residents safe.

They have decided to adopt a new bylaw that establishes consistent burning regulations across the Highlands. Some new provisions are being introduced, chiefly the elimination of daytime burning during the fire season, which runs until Oct. 31.

This should come as a surprise to no one considering how brutal things got last year.

The 2023 wildfire season in Ontario went down as the worst on record in Canada's history. There were 741 recorded blazes, which burnt 441,474 hectares of forest and green land across the province.

Haliburton County certainly was not immune. Fire bans were put into place several times throughout the year, including following one weekend in May when our four volunteer detachments were stretched to the limit, responding to five sizeable fires

within a 12-hour period.

There was a bush fire in Algonquin Highlands, which took 35 firefighters to extinguish; a small bush fire near Eagle Lake that half a dozen Dysart firefighters responded to; and three blazes in Minden – including a bush fire on Black Lake that required Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) intervention. Former Minden Hills fire chief Shain Duda said it was the craziest year he'd seen in more than two decades of firefighting.

Fast forward to this past weekend and firefighters were busy again – the quick thaw paving way for dangerously dry conditions, according to Dysart fire chief Dan Chumbley.

What started as a harmless brush fire on a property along Gelert Road suddenly caught wind around 1 p.m. Saturday, spreading quickly through the dry grass and engulfing a nearby barn. It took 30 firefighters several hours to bring the blaze under control. It scorched around 11 acres, said Minden Hills acting fire chief Rob Thibert.

Highlands East fire chief Chris Baughman said there were several other brush fires reported in the County over the weekend.

While I understand people enjoy their

campfires and burns, public safety, and that of our volunteer firefighters, must take precedent. And it's not like this is a 24-hour, seven day a week ban – people are allowed to stoke their campfires come 7 p.m.

Given the long line of evidence we've seen in recent years, this new bylaw is much needed. Volunteer units are being stretched to their limit keeping up with all the local fires, many of which originate from innocent, seemingly innocuous, brush burns. All it takes is a sudden gust of wind for things to go awry – as one local family, unfortunately, learned the hard way this past weekend.

It won't be the last time property is lost in this County due to fire – but if this new bylaw helps to reduce the growing number of tragedies we've witnessed in recent years, it will be a major win.



By Mike Baker



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PHOTO OF THE WEEK
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PHOTOS OF THE WEEK



Top and above: Morgan Giles took these photos around Minden, saying it is “great to see the birds back after winter.” Right: Winter sunset at Kushog Lake by D. Campbell.



LETTERS

Driving to hotter world

Dear editor,

I just read that Canadians’ biggest source of climate pollution is from our tailpipes. We produce more carbon from our vehicles than the entire economies of 150 individual countries. Tallying up the tailpipe emissions from all road vehicles in Canada equals around 120 million tonnes of CO2 annually. Apparently, Canadians buy the world’s most climate-polluting cars (International Energy Agency and GlobalFuelEconomy.org), an embarrassing claim we have held for over a decade. Our vehicles are our nation’s single biggest climate threat. We should do something about that. Carbon-pricing is regarded as one of the most powerful tools to help countries limit CO2 emissions and reach net-zero targets (World Economic Forum). A carbon tax policy also raises revenue to invest in other programs or return to taxpayers that need it most. Economists advise a carbon tax is an essential policy tool to limit carbon

emissions by reducing demand. Research and observation show this is true, proving an effective way to reduce GHG emissions and pollution. Countries with high carbon tax have shifted to more fuel efficient or electric vehicles, reducing pollution. Canadian tailpipe emissions have risen 28 per cent since 1990. Our tailpipe pollution is erasing our climate progress, increasing our national emissions, further destabilizing our climate. We are driving our children’s future into a hotter world. We should do something about that. The U.K.’s \$550 per tonne tax means new passenger vehicles emit a third less climate pollution every kilometre than ours do. Italy and Norway’s gas tax is \$600 per tonne of CO2 while Canada’s is \$65/tonne. This week, April 1, it increased to \$80 a tonne (up three cents/litre) and will continue to rise annually by \$15 until it reaches \$170 a tonne (2030). That still leaves Canada with one of the world’s lowest carbon taxes.

Nell Thomas
Minden Hills

Minden Hills tipping fees

Dear editor,

As a full-time resident, I use the Scotch Line Road landfill for my waste disposal. My wife and I generate about half a bag of garbage a week and some recyclables. So, not a great amount. I recently went to drop off a full bag of garbage and some recyclables. I also had a plastic stackable chair which had a broken leg. The attendant asked if they could take a look so I opened the hatch, they looked and returned to inform me that the chair would be considered construction waste and the cost of disposal was based on a cubic yard, but there was also a \$10 minimum fee for construction waste. Ten dollars to dispose of a chair that was probably less than that when it was purchased? Really? The response I got from the township was, “charging waste disposal fees helps to recover the costs so that the cost is not applied to property taxes. This way, the person who creates the waste pays for the cost to manage it.” Well, I do pay a lot in taxes and a simple plastic chair is far from

bulky waste, construction and demolition material, and shingles.

John Trimble
Minden Hills

HHHS membership and AGM

Dear editor,

Haliburton Highlands Health Services’ annual general meeting will be held June 27. However, to be eligible to vote at the AGM, completed membership applications, and payment, must be received by April 18. It is for the term April 1 until March 31, 2025. Go to hhhs.ca/news/annual-membership-notice-annual-general-meeting. Be there or be square.

Diane Duff
Minden



A hunting we will go

Annalee and Brodie Xerri enjoy collecting eggs at Wintergreen Maple Products & Pancake Barn on Gelert Road March 30. The local business offered an Easter egg hunt as well as maple syrup on snow. Children brought their discovered Easter eggs inside where they exchanged them for an Easter treat. *(Lisa Gervais).*



Easter giveaway

Those passing by Stedmans Department Store in Minden over the past few weeks will have noticed new décor filling the main street shop’s windows. Rather than showcasing a new line of products, the store has been promoting local talent – with almost 100 themed pictures posted from an Easter colouring contest geared towards County-based children. Sue Taylor, who works at Stedmans, said there were 93 entries from kids aged five to 10. “With Stedmans reopening last September, this was our way to involve the community in a fun initiative and welcome them to the new store,” Taylor said. *(Mike Baker).*

Ten-year-old Keira Buchanan was the winner of the contest, taking home a prize pack containing Easter-themed items, a painting activity, and chocolate. *Submitted.*

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Lost connections key theme of new exhibit

By Mike Baker

After hearing about artist Bruce Cull’s connection to wildlife and nature, Shannon Kelly, Minden Hills’ manager of cultural services, knew she had to bring him and his artistic creations to Haliburton County.

A new exhibit ‘Connection and Response’ will debut at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery April 4, running until June 8. It will feature 22 of Cull’s original pieces, which provide an overview of the Temiskaming-based artist’s response to the natural world, Kelly said.

“I’ve gotten to know Bruce quite well over the past 18 months – this exhibit is very much his interpretation of nature, animals, and the cycle of the seasons... it touches on his fear of a lost connection with each other and our environment,” she noted.

Cull is a former curator at the Temiskaming Art Gallery and has had his pieces showcased in exhibits across the continent, including recently in New York City.

He works in various mediums, specializing in acrylic and watercolour painting, photography, and collaging. He’s also started to dabble with 3D art, Kelly noted.

Since many of his pieces are large in scale, Kelly has had a fun time coming up with displays that fit the gallery’s space.

“It’s been a bit of a Tetris game – we’ve had to move things around while still grouping things together that belong to the same theme. I think people will really resonate with his connection to nature, because that’s a big focus for a lot of County residents too,”



Temiskaming-based artist Bruce Cull will have his works featured at a new exhibit at Agnes Jamieson Gallery in Minden. Submitted.

Kelly said.

Cull will be in attendance Saturday for an opening reception at the gallery from 1 to 3 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Kelly said she feels fortunate to be able to bring an artist of Cull’s calibre to the County, saying anyone with an affinity for fine arts should make a point to see the show.

“We’re very lucky, being such a small community, that we’re able to bring the quality of artwork in that we do – it’s amazing,” Kelly said. “Most communities don’t have public art galleries, but we do. The range of artists and creativity on display

is always incredible. It really reflects the artistic community we have here.”

The gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is by donation.

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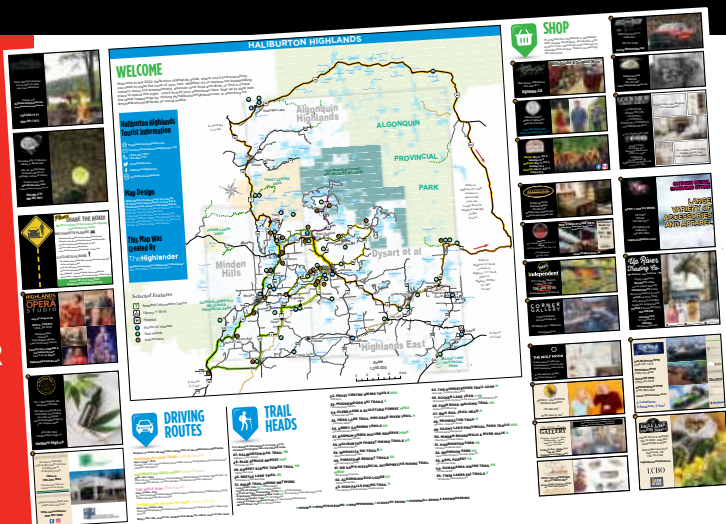
By Mike Baker

A lacrosse player in a white and grey uniform with the number 8, wearing a helmet and gloves, is in a dynamic pose on a green field, holding a lacrosse stick.

Scott Stewart, who played 11 seasons in the National Lacrosse League, is bringing a kids lacrosse camp to Haliburton. *Submitted.*

TOURISM MAP 2024

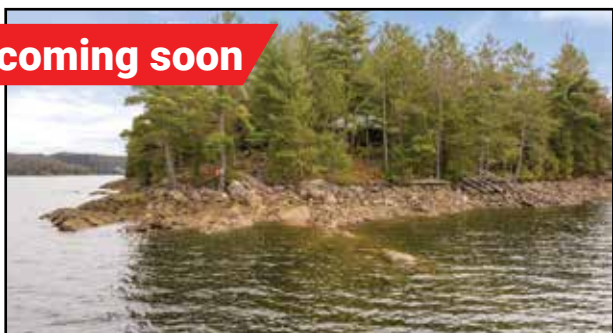
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Larry Mann pictured with his 1949 Ford F-1 pick-up truck. *Submitted.*

Radical rebuild turns heads at Motorama car show

By Mike Baker

When Burnt River resident Larry Mann brought home a 1949 Ford F-1 pick-up truck in 2015, he figured he'd spend a couple of years upgrading it before gifting it to his wife.

Nine years, and several thousand man hours later, the project, which turned into a full-blown rebuild, is finally over. Rather than giving his new baby to wife, Darlene, Larry has turned it into a show vehicle. The truck placed second in the radical customs category at the prestigious 2024 Toronto Motorama car show. It was one of 28 vehicles featured in the front room at the show, which ran March 8 to 10.

Sitting down with *The Highlander* at his shop just off County Road 121, Mann opened up about what he described as the rebuild of his life.

"I found the truck through a guy I knew years ago who worked at the snowmobile dealership in Haliburton. He got it as part of a trade deal, but didn't have the resources to really fix it. It needed a lot of work – it looked good from afar, but it was far from good," said Mann, who started his career as a mechanic before going on to work for Ontario Power Generation.

The original idea was to fix it up for his wife to use as a leisure vehicle – she had always wanted a vintage truck, and this fit the bill. Once Mann started working on it, though, he quickly realized this wasn't going to be a simple job.

"I started with the suspension, and it just blossomed from there. The next thing you know, I had the frame completely off. It was a total rebuild. There isn't one part of that vehicle that isn't customized," Mann said.

The finished product boasts a 347 ci engine, four-link rear suspension with coil overs, coil over front suspension with tubular control arms, custom fenders and bumpers, custom fabricated bed, ridler wheels, flush mount glass for windows and windshield, leather interior and keyless entry. It's painted metallic black – done by Steve's Coachworks in Bobcaygeon – with the fuel-injected motor hitting up to 535 horsepower.

The rebuild was completed last fall.

"It was an evolution – the more I worked on it, the more my vision came together. Once I did one mod, that sort of fed into another," Mann said. "The motor was done by Don Palmer Racing, when we tested it for power, it came back

way higher than I expected. So, in my joy, I called my wife to tell her and she said 'well that's not really what I need', so the project moved from me building it for her, to building it for myself as a show vehicle."

As a make good, he bought Darlene a turquoise Ford Thunderbird.

After finishing the truck, Mann reached out to judges from the Toronto Motorama show. They visited his property in October, saying they'd love to feature the vehicle as one of this year's premiere entries.

"It was nerve racking leading up to it – this is the first time I've put the truck out there for people to see... getting the second place was amazing, but my sentiment was, when those fellas came up here to look at the truck and said it was worthy of being in the front room, I had already won. For a guy who does stuff at home like me, I didn't need anything else," Mann said.

Further validation came when organizers of the Syracuse Nationals Classic Car Show invited him to attend their July show for consideration for the annual Gene Winfield Award, which recognizes excellence in custom automotive design and build techniques.

Mann hopes to make the show in New York and will be featuring the truck at Back Alley Cruiser events in Lindsay over the summer. He plans to put the car up for auction sometime in the future.

It wasn't his first rebuild – he remembers transforming a 1969 Ford Mustang Cobra Jet Mach One in the late 80s – and it won't be his last. He has a 1932 Deuce Coupe he plans to work on, and a 1972 Ranchero GT he's already mostly finished.

"You only want to have one big project at a time, because you only have so much time in the day and you only have so much money," Mann said. "To be perfectly honest, I'm glad the truck is finished. When a build goes on that long, it does start to wear on you. I went back to work to help fund it, that's why it took me so long. If I had stayed retired, I would never have had the financial wherewithal to finish the build the way I wanted.

"I'm definitely proud of it – the rebuild was pretty much all me, and it stood out right alongside all the other vehicles [at Toronto Motorama], even ones that had hundreds of thousands of dollars pumped into them," he added. "It's been a fun ride."

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Celebrating the liquid amber

Wilberforce was the place to be on March 30 as locals and visitors gathered for the 43rd Maple Syrup Festival. Located at the Lloyd Watson Centre, the Wilberforce FUNraising group and volunteers in action came together to put on the all-you-can-eat pancake and sausages meal, with locally-produced pure maple syrup. There was also a flea market and crafts.

Top left: Paisley and Miller Laffey at the crafts table. Top right: Wesley Bramham, Sebastian and Felix Dart enjoy pancakes. Above: Anne was dishing out the liquid amber but stopped for a hug from the Easter bunny. Right: Justin and Sandra Collins at the Riley's Northern Gold table. *Photos by Lisa Gervais.*

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Easter at the Gardens

Abbey Gardens hosted an Easter event March 30. Families began with an Easter egg hunt on the Chickadee trail. They could decode a secret message in the Glen. If they collected five eggs, they exchanged them for an Easter treat bag. They could also unscramble a scavenger hunt message for a special surprise. There were even a few rare eggs with a special heart on them. Kids also decorated sugar cookies, posed for photos with the Easter bunny, did crafts, and posed for selfies with the ponies.

Above: Andrew, Jennifer, Charlotte and Brady Cowin at the Easter event at Abbey Gardens. Right: Lilah and Maeve Brown posed with the Easter bunny. *Photos by Lisa Gervais.*



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The Fab Four are coming to Doc(k) Day

By Lisa Gervais

The Beatles are coming to Doc(k) Day in Haliburton April 13.

While the Fab Four won't be here in person – and George Harrison and John Lennon are no longer with us – their memory will be brought to life by Canadian filmmaker Paul Saltzman, who spent time at an Indian ashram with The Beatles in 1968.

His film, made during a return trip 50 years later, is called *Meeting The Beatles in India*. It will be part of a full-day of documentaries at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. Saltzman will be speaking about his time in Rishikesh, to reminiscence about the experience with Paul, John, George, Ringo and others, and the photos he took of them there.

The initial trip came after an existential moment in the fall of 1967, Saltzman told *The Highlander* in a recent interview.

"I woke up one morning in my little rented room and I had the shocking thought that there were parts of myself I didn't like," he said. He asked out loud, without thinking, "what do I do about this?" His soul spoke to him for the first time, and said "India."

He got a job with a film crew in the Asian country to finance the trip. After a time, he went to Delhi and got a fateful letter. It was from his girlfriend and she was breaking up with him. At 24, he was devastated. A friend suggested the ashram and he said he was willing to try anything.

Unbeknownst to him, The Beatles and some other celebrities were at the ashram and he was denied admittance. But he waited. Eight days in a tent near the ashram door before he was allowed in, as he wanted to learn to meditate to help heal his broken heart.

After an initial mind-blowing 30-minute meditation, he emerged to find The Beatles sitting outside at a table and said his body simply "curved" towards them. He asked if he could join them and they said yes. There were others too: The Beatles' wives and girlfriends, Jane Asher, Cynthia Lennon, Pattie Boyd Harrison, Maureen Starkey, the singer Donovan, actress Mia Farrow, Mike Love of The Beach Boys and Beatles' roadie Mal Evans.

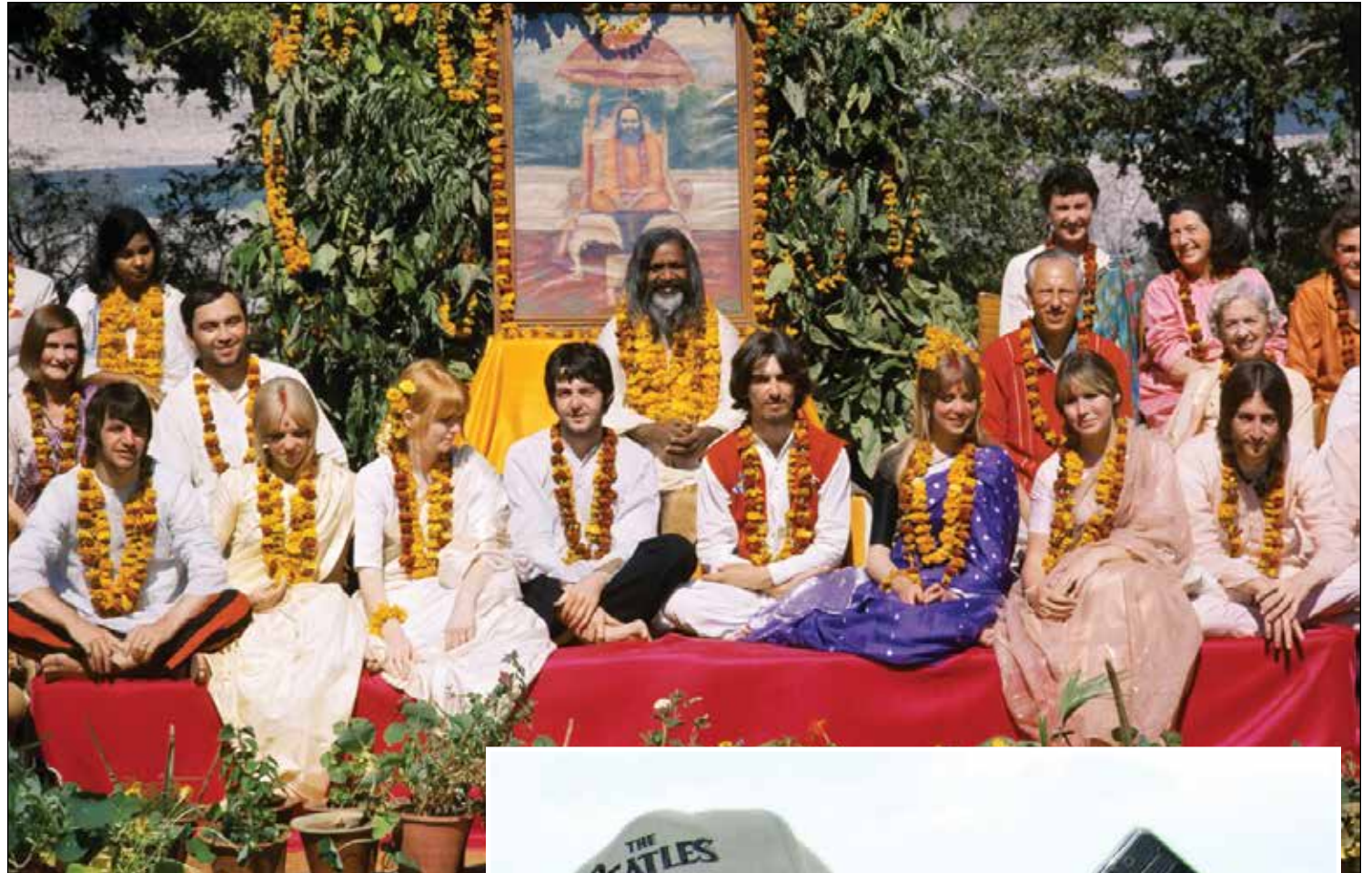
Magical things

He sat down and said "magical" things happened. Initially, he heard a scream in his head, "it's The Beatles". Then his soul assured him they were just ordinary people. That's when Lennon turned to him and asked him if he was American, and light-hearted banter ensued from there. "And that was it. They just took me into their group. I just sat around with them for the next week," Saltzman said.

He said the four musicians were as close as brothers and at the ashram there was no ego. He doesn't recall the name 'The Beatles' even coming up. With the world media trying to get through the ashram doors, Saltzman was one of only a few to take photographs.

He recalled a one-on-one conversation with John Lennon, when the musician asked Saltzman why he was at the ashram, and he told him he had come to learn to meditate to deal with a broken heart.

"And he looked off into the distance, then



back at me and said, 'yes, love can be very hard on us sometimes, can't it?' And then in the sweetest, most caring way, he said, 'but you know, Paul, the really great thing about love is you always get a second chance'. He could not have said something kinder to me in that moment."

The other amazing one-on-one experience was when Harrison invited him back to his room to hear him play the sitar. He didn't have a camera or take photos, so, in the film, he is able to use graphic novel-type imagery.

"He starts to play and I close my eyes and just drift into an altered state," Saltzman recalled, emerging in a blissful state.

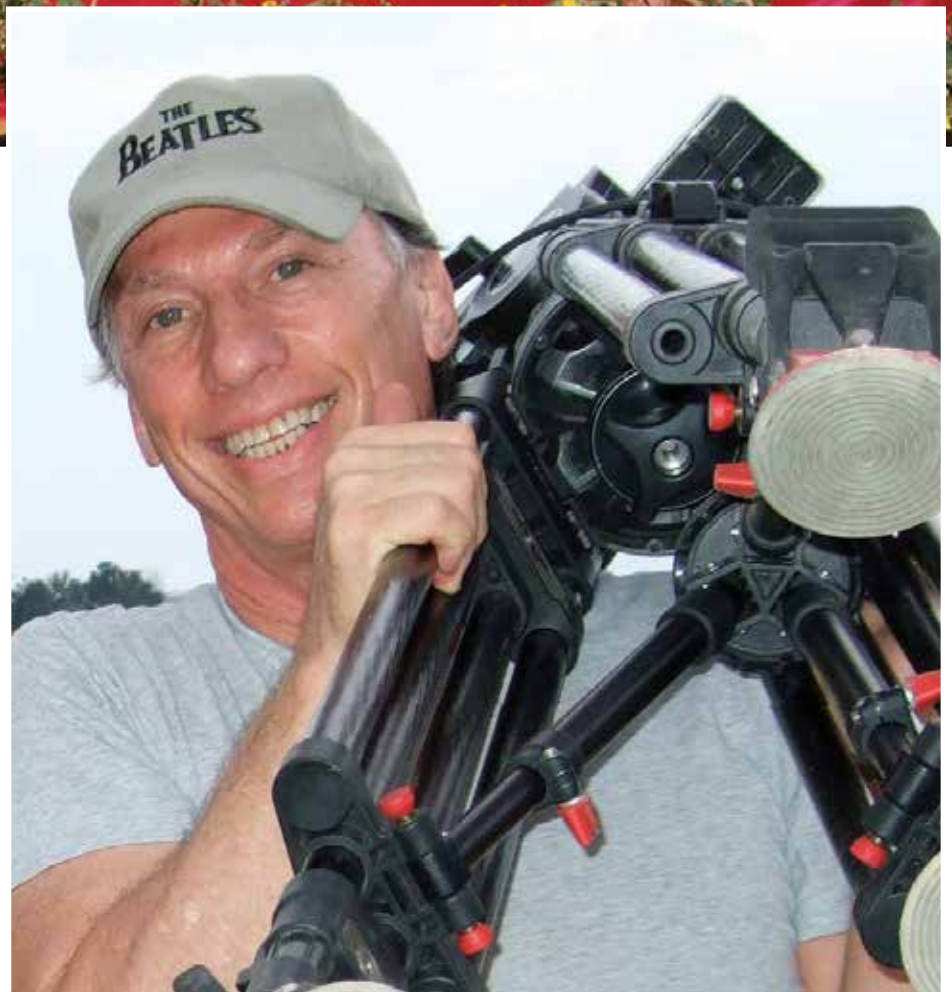
The two 24-year-olds then talked, and Saltzman recalls a man of "profound humility and with a deep inner core of calm and warmth and love."

He said in addition to the meditation, he had life-changing conversations, including with George in that moment. He said George told him, "we're The Beatles after all... we have all the money you could ever dream of. We have all the fame you could ever wish for but it isn't love, it isn't health, it isn't peace inside, is it?" And that went right to the core of my being and it was life-changing."

Saltzman returned home, wrote a magazine article about the experience, and then put the pictures away. It wasn't until his 16-year-old daughter prompted him to do something with the story that he wrote a book, and then did the film.

And, the story came full circle when the woman who sent him to the ashram came to his book launch with her family. Forgiveness and love were there.

"I said 'I have to thank you because if it wasn't for you, none of this would exist' and we had a good laugh."



Top: The image Paul Saltzman captured of The Beatles and their entourage. Above: Filmmaker Paul Saltzman is coming to Doc(k) Day. Copyright Paul Saltzman.

The Movie Man

The documentary about Highlands Cinema and its enigmatic owner, Keith Stata, will also be shown at Doc(k) Day. Stata will be there, along with director, Matt Finlin, and cameraman, Brad Brown. The story is how, "amid a global pandemic, an entrepreneur looks back on his life's work, owning and operating an idiosyncratic cinema in the forest of northern Ontario."

The schedule and contact info:

- 10 a.m. – The Last Repair Shop
- 11 a.m. – A Human Picture
- 1:30 p.m. – Mr. Toilet: The World's \$2 Man
- 3:30 p.m. – Meeting the Beatles in India
- 8 p.m. The Movie Man.

Go to ThoseOtherMovies.com, ThoseOtherMoviesHaliburton@gmail.com or call 705-457-0428.

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April 6, 2 p.m.

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U7 Gary Burch Construction

The U7 Gary Burch Construction team had a successful, fun-filled season. The team was able to participate in four jamborees and play multiple different leagues. Our team finished the season with 15 wins and five losses. All of our 11 players brought their individual strengths to make our team one to beat. Each player progressed significantly from the beginning of the season, utilizing their newly-learned skillsets and expanding their dedication to the game. Big thank you to our head coach, Jamie Luck, manager Ally French, trainer Nick Coty, and assistant coach, Ryan Emmerson, for a great season. We look forward to seeing all of our current players, as well as newly-joined faces, for another competitive season in the fall of 2024. *(Submitted). (Photos by Tim Tofflemire).*



U11 Curry Chevrolet Rep team

The U11 Curry Chevrolet Rep team had a remarkable year, finishing third in the regular season with a solid record of 19 wins, 10 losses, and four ties. Their resilience was further evident in the post-season, where they once again secured a third-place finish, despite facing tough competition. However, it was their unforgettable loss in penalty shots during the second round of the tier 2 championships that truly tested their mettle. Despite the disappointment, the team displayed admirable determination and character throughout the match, earning respect from opponents and spectators alike. Head coach Curtis, supported by assistant coaches Jay and Chris, faced significant challenges at the start of the season with a roster of only 12, comprising of seven minors and only five returning majors. Nevertheless, their strategic guidance and unwavering commitment to player development laid the groundwork for the team's success. A standout performer throughout the season was captain Austin Cunningham, not only leading in goals for the team but also for the entire league, with an impressive tally of 48; he proved to be a formidable force and an inspiration to his teammates. In summary, the U11 Curry Chevrolet Rep team's journey exemplifies the power of sheer determination, grit, and perseverance. They have not only made their mark on the ice but have also left a lasting impression on all who have had the privilege of witnessing their journey." *(Submitted).*



U15 Haliburton TimberMart Rep team

It was a great season for the U15 Haliburton TimberMart Rep team. We started strong, leading the division, and playing well as a team. Showing great chemistry, we endured a number of injuries, being down some strong players. We went into the Wasaga Beach Silver Stick regional tournament with high hopes, and won to secure a spot at the International Silver Stick in Forest, Ontario. The boys made it to the semi-finals, losing a close game to end our run there. Up next was the Millbrook Winter Classic tournament. Another strong weekend of play from the boys found them in the finals against the host Millbrook Stars. It was an extremely close game but we came up just short, losing 1-0 to end the tourney. We finished second in the division heading into the preliminary round of the playoffs against the Kawartha Coyotes. We went to Kawartha's rink for game one, coming back from being down most of the game to win 5-4. For game two, back in our rink, we were positioned well to finish off the series, however Kawartha came into town on a mission and battled hard to win 6-4. A hard-fought, rough, game three on the road saw the boys fall 3-1 with the game finishing on an empty net goal to secure the win for Kawartha. Great job to all the boys this year, and best of luck to the second-year players that will be moving on to U18 next season. Also, a big thanks to the coaching staff and parents for putting together a great year of hockey. *(Submitted).*

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The Highlander

Thank You

Highland Storm hockey players are wrapping up the 2023/2024 hockey season with another successful year involving teamwork, skill development and fun! The Highland Storm Minor Hockey Association would like to thank its sponsors for their support; our success is only possible with your generosity!

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The U13s show off their OMHA Victoria Durham league banner. *Submitted.*

A storm front is moving into Kingston

The Walker's Heating and Cooling Highland Storm U13 rep team continued their epic 'march' toward the OMHA championships March 29 with a stunning win in game three against the Lindsay Muskies.

The victory was even sweeter, considering that the leading point scorer, Travis Rowe, was unavailable.

The Storm began their series against Lindsay, with captain Henry Neilson punching home two goals in the first two periods to keep the locals within reach in game one. Lucas Vale stepped up with a 270-degree spinning backhand in the third to

level the game at three before Linus Gervais took a pass from Brycen Harrison to net the winner.

Game two saw an outstanding defensive battle, with goalie Blake Hutchinson turning away all of Lindsay's efforts after the Muskies took a 1-0 lead. A tying goal from Tyler Hughes pushed the game into overtime, where the Storm hit the post and crossbar multiple times but couldn't put the game away. After two overtime periods, the Muskies defeated the Storm 2-1 in a shootout, setting the stage for game three.

The Muskies came to Minden ready to play

in the final decisive game and were all over the Storm in the first period.

The seesaw battle again saw some fantastic play, with Levi Rowe, Hudson Meyer and Hawksley Dobbins standing firm on defence and Jaxon Hurd and Chase Kerr providing continuous pressure on the Muskies' goalie.

Cruise Neave and Lyla Degeer continued with solid efforts, consistently forcing the play back into the Lindsay zone.

The Storm entered the third tied 2-2 with both goals by Harrison. He picked up the hat-trick in the third to put the Storm ahead once and for all and to secure a berth in the

tier one OMHA championships in Kingston, April 5-8.

Marshall Heasman, who collected two playoff shutouts in the previous round, was ready if needed.

"The Storm coaches and manager - Scott Neilson, Cynthia Hutchinson, Marcus Rowe, Shawn Walker and James Rielly - thank the community for their incredible support this year. The air horns and cheering were likely heard for miles as the parents and fans rocked the house. Look out, Kingston, a Storm is rolling in." *(Submitted).*



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Notice of Comprehensive Fee By-Law Amendments

Dysart et al Council, at their April 23, 2024 meeting, will be considering changes to By-Law 2024-23, being a by-law to impose fees and charges. This amendment will reflect the following changes:

1. The addition of a fee of \$5.00 per vendor per market day for Haliburton County Farmers' Market Association's use of the Head Lake Park location for the 2024 Haliburton Village Farmers' Market; and
2. Fee increases for backyard Composters and Digesters.

Further information on these fee changes will be available on <https://www.dysartetal.ca/>.

Mallory Bishop, Municipal Clerk



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U18 rep Storm strike provincial gold

By Mike Baker

The Highland Storm U18 rep Tom Prentice and Sons team swept aside the competition at the 2024 OMHA championships in Halton Hills March 29 to 31, earning a provincial gold medal.

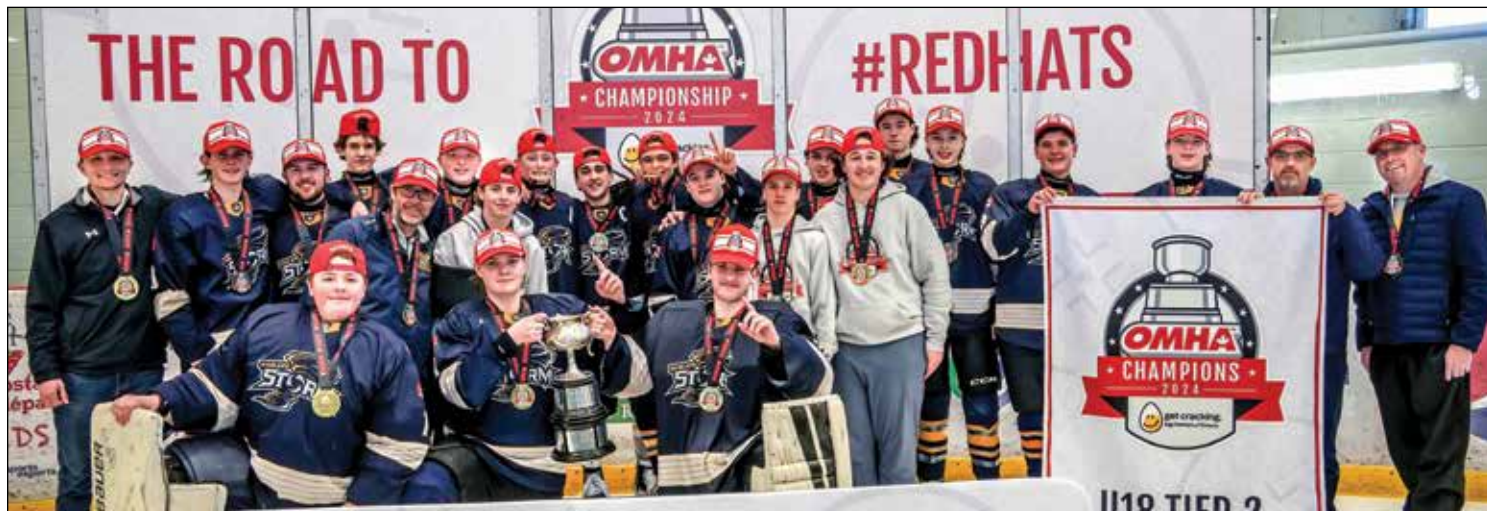
It was a tough road for the local team, who competed against some of the best hockey programs in Ontario.

The team faced some adversity in the opening game on Friday, where they found themselves in a hole, down 3-1 to the Wallaceburg Lakers late in the second period. The team fought back valiantly, scoring five unanswered goals to win the game 6-3.

Coach Brandon Hendry said the performance showcased the team's depth, with all players contributing a point. Goals were tallied by Brechin Johnston, Alex Hendry, Cooper Coles, Ethan Megrah Poppe, and Nathan Morrison.

On Saturday, the Storm faced off against the Belle River Jr. Canadiens. Down by a goal heading into the second, the local team were hot on the powerplay, capitalizing on multiple opportunities, to head into the locker room up 3-2 after the second buzzer.

With just under seven minutes left in the third, Aiden Perrott scored his second of the game, increasing the lead to 4-2. Coles added another late in the period, which completed his hat-trick, before a late goal by Hendry added some gloss to the score line. The Storm came away with a 6-2 win, securing



The Highland Storm U18 rep Tom Prentice and Sons team won gold at the 2024 OMHA championships this past weekend. Submitted.

their spot in the semi-finals.

They still had one final round robin game to play on Saturday evening, against the Norwood Hornets. After a close battle in the early goings, the Hornets took control and ran away with a 4-1 win – the Storm's only blemish of the weekend.

The semi-final saw the Storm lock horns with Port Colborne, which coach Hendry said is a well-respected team that finished first in their group. Port Colborne took an early lead, but the Storm responded well – Beckham Reynolds tying the game before the first buzzer.

The back-and-forth game ended with the

Storm securing a 5-4 win, thanks to a four-goal explosion from Johnston.

The Storm came face-to-face with their rivals from Norwood in the championship game, which coach Hendry said was, "evenly-matched, fast-paced and close to the very end."

Perrott opened the scoring in the first period, with Johnston following with a shorthanded marker to give the Storm a two-goal lead heading into the second frame. Norwood hit back with a powerplay goal early in the second, cutting the lead to one. The Storm defence dug in, with goaltender Ethan Dobson making several smart saves.

With five minutes left on the clock, Reynolds popped up with the eventual game-winner, securing the gold medal. Norwood fired in a late consolation, bringing the score to 3-2.

"Building team chemistry was one of the main goals for us this season," said Hendry. "That's generally something all championship teams have in common – knowing we can trust each other really made the difference, especially in the big games. It was a great season all around, and it feels great being OMHA champions."



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NOTICES

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Sundays - 10:30 am at Saint Anthony's, 27 Victoria Street Haliburton. **Mondays** - 7:00 PM at West Guilford Baptist Church. **Wednesdays** - 7:00 PM at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle St. in Minden - rear door. Thinking about alcohol. Thinking about stopping. We've been there. We can help!

AL ANON- WE CARE, are you troubled by someone's drinking? Meetings: **Thursdays** 7 p.m., St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton, and **Mondays** 7 p.m. at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle, Rear Entrance, Minden. 1-888-4AL-ANON (1-888-425-2666) al-anon.org. All are welcome.

OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of
Herbert Debes
(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully at Highland Wood on March 26, 2024 in his 89th year, surrounded by his loving family. Gentle smiles right to the end. He will be greatly missed by the caring staff at Highland Wood and all the volunteers who brightened his last few years. Herb greatly believed he would be reunited with his lifetime friend and wife of 63 years Sigrid who sadly passed 3 years prior. A husband and father who never failed to provide for the needs of his family while adding zest with dad jokes, grand hand gestures and much laughter. Adored by the community of Haliburton he called home for 50 years and all of his friends. Herb had the kind of smile that reached his eyes and lit up his whole face, you couldn't help but feel it. He loved the outdoors and kept beautiful landscapes while he could. He found great comfort in knowing he would one day have the ability to once again be working the earth with his hands, his faith and hope remained in tack to the end of his life. He will be fondly remembered by his children Karen, Cathy, Glenn and his wife Geraldine, Jennifer and her husband Michael. He was a fabulous Opa and will be greatly missed by his 10 grandchildren Kaley, Amy, Michah, Jaden, Taze, Jett, Denver, Bradie, LaKeshia, and Charlea and his 7 great grandchildren Tahlia, Keenan, Markie, Isla, Wren, Ivan and J.D.

"A true gentleman is one who puts more into the world than he takes out"

Private Graveside Service & Celebration Of Life

A Private funeral will be held graveside for family and friends. A Celebration of life will be announced at a later date. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation - HighlandWoodwouldbeappreciatedbythefamily. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.



In Loving Memory of
Susan McKnight (nee English)
(Resident of Minden, Ontario)

Passed away peacefully at Peterborough Regional Health Centre, surrounded by her family on the morning of March 27, 2024.

Beloved wife of the late Dale McKnight (2009). Dear mother of Dwayne, Lesia and Tina. Loving grandmother of Christina, Stephanie, Jason, Joshua, Christopher and great grandmother of Hunter, Elsie and Holly. Dear sister of Guy (Cheryl), Lynda (deceased), Stewart (Rosemary - deceased), Janet (Terry), Barb (Dave), Raymond Jr. (Betty), Brenda (Mike), Warren (Shelly), Chris (Khryisia), Brett (Sherry), Lori (Lindsay), sister-in-law of Norman (Marion) McKnight and Everett (Ruth) McKnight and aunt to many nieces and nephews.

Friends are invited to join the family for a Celebration of Susan's life, to be held at her home, 1187 Robertson Rd., Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 from 12:00 o'clock noon until 3:00pm. Cremation has taken place with an Interment at the Ingoldsby Pioneer Cemetery at a later date.



EVENT

A MURDER IS ANNOUNCED
and will take place April 3, 4 & 5, 7 :30 p.m. at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion at the High School in Haliburton, and April 6 at 2 p.m. presented by Highlands Little Theatre. Tickets available at Up River Trading, Minden & Haliburton. Friends please accept this as the only intimation.

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SOLUTIONS FOR APRIL 4

1	I	S	T	O	O	6	U	L	T	R	A	11	B	R	O
14	S	C	U	T	S	15	N	O	W	A	Y	16	E	E	N
17	S	A	B	B	A	18	T	I	C	A	L	L	E	A	V
20	A	R	E			21	I	C	K	S		22	M	Y	S
23	R	A	T	24	25	A	C	E			26	B	E	E	T
27	A	B	O	W	L	O	F	28	29	C	H	E	R	R	I
30	E	S	P	Y	S			31	Y	E	T		32	S	E
						33	O	F	F	B	E	A	T		
37	A	38	C	T	40	A	41	E	O	E		42	H	43	A
47	W	H	I	S	T	L	E	R	49	50	S	M	O	T	H
51	A	I	N	T	I	T			52	M	A	R	L	E	N
53	I	C	I	E	R		54	I	M	O	N		56	S	T
57	T	H	E	R	E	58	D	F	O	X	59	X	60	S	H
61	E	I	S			62	O	V	E	R	T		63	E	V
64	D	S	T			65	F	R	E	S	H		66	S	U

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

1	A	B	C		4	A	M	A	S	S		9	B	A	L
14	C	I	O		15	V	I	N	C	I		16	E	T	A
17	L	O	M		18	G	R	E	A	T		19	D	R	A
20	A	L	P	21	O		22	G	L	A	R	E		23	S
24	M	O	R	N	25	I	N	G	D	R	A	F	T	E	R
	28	G	E	E	N	A				29	G	T	A		
30	V	I	N		31	R	I	O	33	T	S		35	M	A
39	I	S	D	40	R	I	L	L	E	Q	41	U	42	I	P
43	A	T	E	A			44	D	A	R	T	H		45	E
					46	I	R	S				49	N	A	C
	51	I	52	N	D	E	L	53	54	B	55	L	E	D	R
57	I	D	O		58	T	E	P	I	D		59	A	T	T
60	A	L	L	E	Y	D	R	O	O	P	S		64	I	I
65	M	E	T	U	P		66	A	M	P	L	E		67	F
68	I	S	E	R	E		69	Y	E	A	S	T		70	S

1	3	8	9	2	6	4	5	7
6	9	4	1	5	7	3	8	2
2	5	7	3	4	8	1	6	9
7	6	3	4	9	2	5	1	8
5	4	1	8	7	3	9	2	6
8	2	9	6	1	5	7	3	4
4	8	2	7	3	1	6	9	5
3	7	6	5	8	9	2	4	1
9	1	5	2	6	4	8	7	3

HELP WANTED



Summer Employment Opportunities

The Municipality of Highlands East is currently recruiting students for summer employment opportunities for the 2024 year.

If you are currently enrolled in secondary school or a post-secondary program and returning to school in the fall of 2024, you are encouraged to apply for an opportunity.

The following positions are available with the municipality:

- (2) Summer Parks & Recreation Attendants (Parks & Property Department – 16 weeks; 35 hours/week)
- (1) Sewage Disposal System Maintenance Program Assistant (Building Department- 16 weeks; 35 hours/week)
- (1) Cemetery Database Student (Parks & Property Department – 16 weeks; 35 hours/week)
- (1) Information Centre Student (Economic Development Department – 16 weeks; 35 hours/week)
- (2) Summer Landfill Attendants (Public Works Department – 16 weeks; 35 hours/week)
- Various Lifeguard Positions (Summer Swim Program – 8 weeks)

Please note, for positions where you may be required to drive in the execution of your duties, a Class G2 or G Driver's Licence is mandatory. You will also be required to provide an acceptable driver's abstract and a criminal reference check.

Most positions listed above are available from the beginning of May through to the end of August for a total of 16 weeks. The Lifeguard positions are for a total of 8 weeks only.

If you are interested in receiving a more detailed job description for one of the positions noted above, please email bmccaw@highlandseast.ca requesting a copy of the specific posting.

If you are interested in applying, applications **clearly marked with the position you are applying for** may be submitted on or before 12:00 p.m, Monday, April 15th, 2024, via mail, in person, fax or email. Interested applicants may submit their resume, in confidence to:

Brittany McCaw, CAO/Treasurer
Municipality of Highlands East
P.O. Box 295, 2249 Loop Road
Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0

Fax: 705-448-2532 E-Mail: bmccaw@highlandseast.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The Municipality of Highlands East is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants requiring accommodation are asked to contact the CAO/Treasurer.

Applicant information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used to determine qualifications for employment with the Municipality of Highlands East. Questions about this collection should be directed to Brittany McCaw, CAO/Treasurer.



The Corporation of the County of Haliburton Requires a Permanent Truck Driver/Equipment Operator

Truck Driver/Equipment Operators are responsible for the safe operation of heavy equipment such as a trucks, backhoes, loaders, and wing plows. This position is responsible for maintaining roads, ditching, excavating culverts, and brushing.

Successful applicants will possess an AZ licence and have experience operating heavy equipment. This position requires an ability to work on call hours and respond to short notice call ins, and good judgment and communication skills. The hourly rate for this unionized CUPE position is \$27.80. This position includes participation in the OMERS defined benefit pension program and employer paid extended health benefits.

Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a more detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to pweiss@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than April 16, 2024, at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.



JOIN OUR TEAM Fund Development Coordinator

Abbey Retreat Centre creates healing spaces and community for people affected by cancer.

Are you a person who:

- Has experience and success in fundraising through major gifts, annual giving, grant writing and special events?
- Enjoys building relationships and working in a collaborative environment?
- Enjoys public speaking, event planning and building community?
- Is passionate about innovative cancer programming and excited to help build a supportive and committed donor community?

A full job description can be found at:
<https://abbeyretreatcentre.ca/work-with-us/>

Interested individuals are invited to email a cover letter and resume to:
Barb Smith-Morrison, Executive Director
barb@abbeyretreatcentre.ca
by April 12, 2024

Hyland Taxi DRIVERS - part time or full time - needed for Hyland Taxi. G License for taxi is required. B, C or F License required for 11 passenger van and bus. Call 705-457-9898

WANTED – CLEANING LADY to clean my cottage on Lake Miskwabi - Saturday's- between 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. If interested call 416-417-7197 or email at imatias@gryphtech.com



**HALIBURTON COUNTY
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**
A Community Futures Development Corporation

WE'RE HIRING!

Program & Operations Coordinator

Known for our customer service and client satisfaction, HCDC is looking for an energetic and enthusiastic individual who is highly organized with the flexibility to adapt.

Key Skills and Experience:

- Project Management
- Administration
- Creating and Monitoring budgets
- Preparing Reports
- Marketing and Communications
- Working with Not-for-Profit Organizations and Board of Directors
- Knowledge of Haliburton County an asset

Please visit www.haliburtoncdc.ca for full job description. Submit a covering letter and resume by **April 15, 2024** to: ptallman@haliburtoncdc.ca

After Dark

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

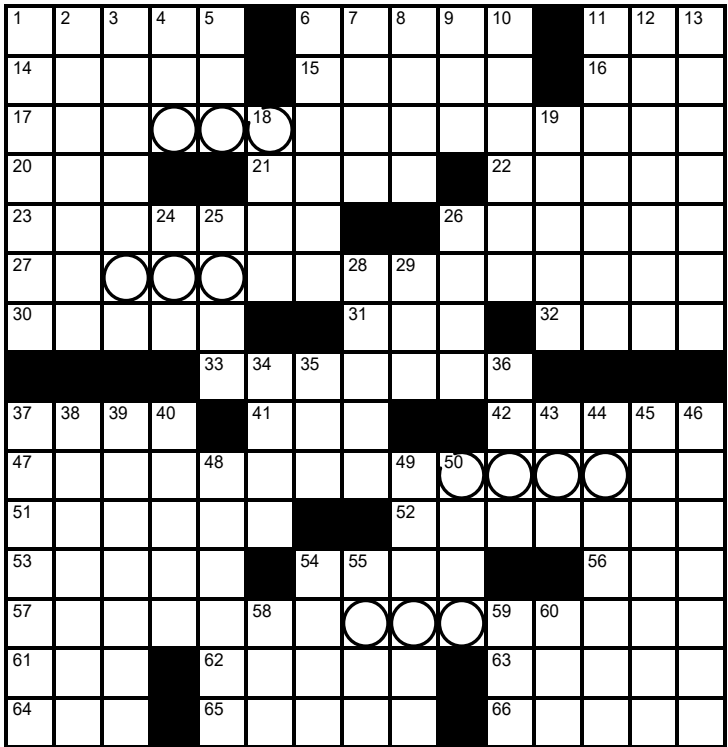
Across

- 1 Wordsworth's "The World ____
Much With Us"
6 UV part
11 Dude's bud
14 Stubby tails
15 "You're kidding, right?!"
16 Dusk, to Donne
17 Prof's off time
20 "We ____ the World"
21 Sounds of revulsion
22 Perfume name suggesting
transgression
23 Frantic work grind
26 Pine-boring bug
27 The good life, metaphorically
30 Athletes' "Oscars"
31 Although
32 Therapy appt.
33 Marching to a different drum
37 ____ fool (be goofy)
41 "We don't discriminate," in job
ads
42 "____ luego" (Spanish "see ya")
47 America's "Mona Lisa," some
say
51 Words of agreement, before
"the truth"
52 Sultry Dietrich
53 Slicker, in the winter
54 "____ a roll!"
56 Bus depot: Abbr.
57 Old sitcom starring the future
Sanford player
61 Cologne cocktail "rocks"
62 Unmasked
63 "... stirring, not ____ mouse"
64 "Spring ahead" setting: Abbr.
65 Inviting a face slap, maybe
66 Like a bubble bath

Down

- 1 Star of "Insecure"
2 Sacred 26-Acrosses of Egypt
3 Strapless, stretchy shirt

- 4 Horse wagering spot, for short
5 Barcelona bruin-ette?
6 Worldwide relief org.
7 Hair piece
8 Fairytale beginning, often
9 "Too-Ra-Loo-Ra-Loo-____"
(Irish lullaby)
10 Brand named for a tomato-
growing Ontario town
11 Hip hop's ____ Boys
12 Viciously berates
13 Unity
18 Dora the Explorer's squirrel
friend
19 They take a good look
24 Train syst.
25 "One more thing, ..."
26 App test version
28 Prefix with crime or café
29 Bit of a titter
34 Pool table fabric
35 "Friend or ____?"
36 Asgard hammer-wielder
37 Like Godot, by Vladimir and
Estragon
38 Repetitive-sounding cocktails
39 Most minute
40 Flower name meaning "star"
43 Body off the Maritimes: Abbr.
44 "Man cave" for her
45 20,000 pounds
46 Space between buildings
48 Become bored by
49 Well-sanded
50 Tailless cat
54 ____ fixe (obsession)
55 Product producers: Abbr.
58 TV recording device
59 Opposites of check marks
60 Drama series, "Law & Order:
____"



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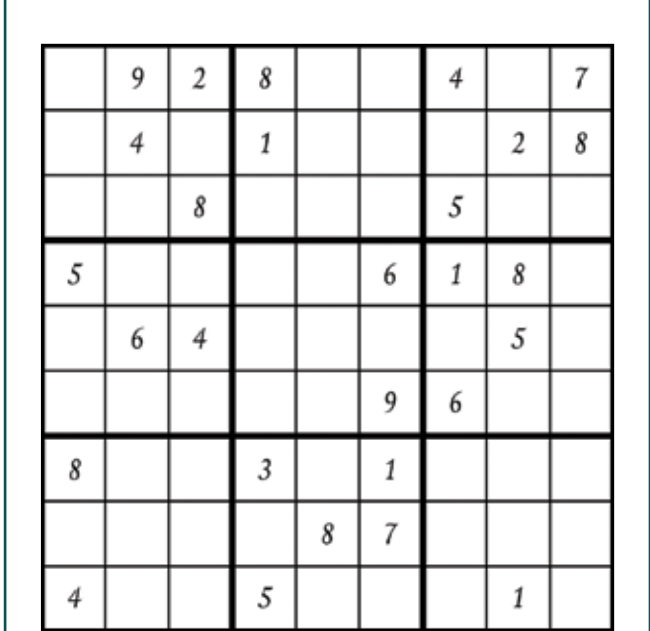
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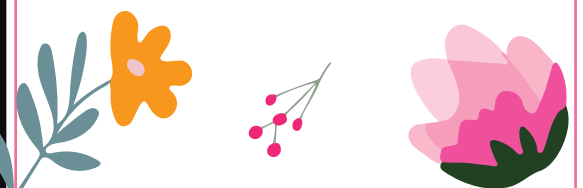


ROYAL LEPAGE



HELLO Spring

Contact Steve for a no obligation opinion of value of your property or to receive his auto-MLS listings.



Watch this space for a NEW Crystal Lake listing COMING SOON!



Market Stats

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MarketStats.ca

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www.royallegapelakesofhaliburton.ca



LITTLE KENNISIS LAKE • \$1,599,900

- 3300+ sq ft, 3+1 bdrm, 2+1 bath, open concept home/cottage
- 152 ft waterfront, sunset views, bunkie, shed, new dock & ramp
- Screen porch, wet bar, a/c, stone fireplace, security system
- Double detached heated garage with loft above
- Many recent updates, turn key ready



LOON LAKE • \$1,399,000

- 4 bdrm, 3 bath, renovated open concept home/cottage
- 2 bedroom winterized guest cottage, bunkie/studio
- Sandy shoreline, landscaped, sunsets, in-ground pool
- Screened-in porch, wrap around decking, firepit
- Comes turn key ready to enjoy



GULL LAKE • \$755,000

- 2 bdrm open concept cottage with 1 bdrm bunkie
- 202 ft frontage on clean "weed free" deep water
- Sunset views, year round access, ample parking
- Grandfathered building location close to waters edge
- Close to Minden and all amenities, comes turn key ready



HORSESHOE LAKE ROAD • \$624,900

- 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with 2570 sq ft living space
- 2 bay attached garage, storage shed, sunroom
- Spacious level lot, partially fenced
- Central air, hardwood floors, wetbar
- Close to Horeseshoe Lake, wild water reserve and all amenities



MOUNTAIN STREET • \$424,900

- In town open concept 3 bedroom home
- Level lot with firepit, garden, creek and storage/wood shed
- Covered veranda, large back deck, woodstove
- Numerous recent upgrades, well maintained
- Year round municipal road, municipal sewer



KENNAWAY ROAD • \$260,000

- Build your dream home on this 43 acres lot
- Paved year round municipal access
- Close to prime lakes and recreational trails
- Minutes to Haliburton village and all amenities
- Abundance of mature maples for syrup production



BARRY LINE ROAD • \$224,900

- 1.18 acre private lot with existing building
- Ideal location for dream home or cottage
- Driveway installed, building area cleared
- Dug well ready for hookup, 3 bedroom septic
- Close to beach, boat launch, golf, skiing, shopping and more



DRAG RIVER • \$215,000

- 1.62 acre building lot on year round private road
- 16' x 12' shed, firepit, outhouse, 100 amp hydro
- Situated on nice swimming hole, walk to public access
- Located at end of quiet road, close to amenities
- Level area to build your dream home or cottage



MILBURN RETREAT • \$2,200 / MONTH

- 100 acre parcel surrounded by crown land
- Recent total renovated 2 bedroom getaway
- 2 ponds, lots of wildlife and plenty of trails
- 2 wheel drive access off year round township road
- Mainly furnished ready to enjoy

Anthony and the Trillium Team did a great job of helping us sell our cottage. They are professionals. They pay attention to details, they return calls, they bring a depth of local knowledge... and they are nice people to work with! We highly recommend them and would certainly work with them again.

Jack Ott



Anthony vanLieshout
Broker of Record, CRA



Chris James
Broker



Marcia Bell
Sales Representative



Chris Smolarz
Sales Representative



Cathy Bain
Sales Representative



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